

Proceedings of the Mysore Representative Assembly, 1909.

MEMORANDUM.

The twenty-sixth session of the Assembly of Representative ryots and merchants was held in the Durbar Hall of the Public Office Buildings at Mysore on Wednesday the 27th October 1909 and succeeding days.

In accordance with the system of triennial election instituted in 1894, the sixth election of members took place this year and the actual number of Representatives thus returned was 274 as shown below:—

Representatives from 68 taluks, including sub-taluks	...	...	207
Representatives from 27 Municipalities with a population each of 5,000 and above	...	...	39
Representatives from 8 Local Boards	...	...	16
Representatives from 12 Associations	...	...	12
		Total	274

Of these—

4 were Europeans,
20 were Mahomedans, and
250 were Hindus.

Arranged according to occupations—

48 were merchants,
16 were sowcars or bankers,
72 were village officers (patels and shanbhogs),
97 were land-holders,
26 were lawyers,
1 was a schoolmaster, and
14 followed other professions.

The number of seats in the Assembly was 282 but seven members represented two electorates each and one seat was declared vacant as a member returned from the Shikarpur Taluk was not qualified for election.

The attendance of members this year was comparatively small owing to the prevalence of plague in the Mysore City. One hundred and twenty-nine members attended on the first day of the session. The sittings were concluded on the 2nd November, the attendance on that day being 24; the members who attended on that day were chiefly representatives of the Mysore District as the Local Subjects relating to that district were taken up for discussion last.

The Hon'ble Mr. S. M. Fraser, I.C.S., C.I.E., the British Resident in Mysore, and other European guests of His Highness the Maharaja attended the first sitting of the Assembly. The members of the State Council, the Heads of the various Departments and other principal officers of the State were also present. At 12 noon the Dewan, Mr. T. Ananda Roy, B.A., opened the proceedings by reading his Address to the members. A Kanarese translation of this was subsequently read by an Under-Secretary to Government.

Mr. Bosworth Smith (on behalf of the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board), certain representatives of the Bangalore District, Mr. D. S. Hanumantha Rao, (a Representative member of the Devanhalli Taluk), Mr. Gulam Ahmed (on behalf of the Central Mahomedan Association of Mysore, Bangalore), Mr. J. Harris (on behalf of the South Mysore Planters' Association) and Mr. Pilkington (on behalf of the North Mysore Planters' Association) read addresses, which along with the Dewan's reply are printed in Appendix A.

The representations made by the members were discussed from the 28th October to the 2nd November, both days inclusive. The body of this report contains a summary of the discussions and the replies given by the Dewan.

On the 30th October 1909 the assembly met for the purpose of electing two of its members to sit on the Legislative Council.

Mr. D. Venkataramaiya for the Eastern Division and Mr. A. Ramanna for the Western Division obtained the largest number of votes. They were appointed as members of the Legislative Council in Government Notification No. J. 1218 A—Legis. 13-09-2, dated 1st November 1909.

At the close of the sittings on the 2nd November, Messrs. Krishna Sastri, Anniah Pandit, Dervish Peer, M. K. Krishnamurti Rao and some others spoke thanking the Dewan for the kind and patient manner in which the proceedings were conducted and requesting that the respectful acknowledgments of the Assembly might be submitted to His Highness the Maharaja for His Highness having been pleased to confer on the Assembly the privilege of electing two members to the Legislative Council and for having nominated as members of that Council Messrs. D. Venkataramaiya and A. Ramanna, who had received the largest number of votes. They presented a written address for submission to His Highness the Maharaja, which is printed in Appendix A.

Certain other members of the Assembly expressed satisfaction for the excellent arrangements made for their comfort during their stay at Mysore.

A suggestion was made, which was concurred in by a large number of members, as to the desirability of compelling the members of the Representative Assembly to attend and be present at the sessions of the Assembly on pain of disqualification from election in the event of absence without sufficient cause, in order to facilitate the discussion of the subjects proposed by them. The only other alternative left would be to take up for discussion all subjects proposed, even though the proposers should be absent, in order to avoid having the same subjects brought up year after year.

The Dewan in reply thanked the members for their kind words and good wishes and promised to submit their expression of loyalty and gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja.

C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Offg. Secretary to Government.